

ANDOVER GREEN ADVISORY BOARD

In collaboration with the League of Woman Voter's Environmental Action Committee, the Andover Planning Division seeks to establish the Andover Green Advisory Board (AGAB). With the support of the Board of Selectmen, the AGAB will focus on promoting sustainable practices and provide input to various boards and town departments. Many groups in Andover have initiatives already underway to help move Andover toward a more sustainable future. The Town government has both a participatory role as a user of energy and land as well as a leadership role in its function of setting standards for future development.

With the establishment of the AGAB, the Town will have a community partner in helping raise awareness of existing sustainable efforts presently being undertaken by the Town and assist in building a more sustainable Andover.

Mission:

The mission of "Andover Green" Advisory Board (AGAB) is to provide support and advice, which contribute to practical environmental solutions to various town boards and town departments in Andover. Through outreach, technical assistance, research and advocacy, the Greening Andover Board will promote increased use of renewable energy and resources, reduction of solid waste, conservation of energy and natural resources, prevention of pollution and improvement of personal and community health. The Advisory Board will accomplish this mission in a twofold way: to provide ongoing expertise to appointed town boards, committees and departments on matters of sustainability; and second, to facilitate communication, education, collaboration and outreach among the various sectors, organizations, departments, community groups and institutions that have an interest in Andover's Sustainability.

This mission will be accomplished by the formation of a nine (9) member advisory board.

Priority Topics:

The Advisory Board will promote sustainable choices and practices, including a focus on energy and resource use, protection of air, water, and land resources, the prevention of pollution and improvement of community health and increasing general environmental awareness. The following is a short list of some of the topics the AGAB will seek to investigate:

- Public Education
- Developing Town bylaws (Andover Eco Spec's)
- Energy Conservation
- Renewable Energy
- Air quality
- LEED construction
- Massachusetts Technology Collaboration (MTC) funding opportunities
- Green Communities Act
- Water conservation and supply
- Pesticide reduction/organic land management

- Business sector initiatives
- Waste reduction strategies

Sustainable Andover Board will:

- Set initial priorities for action
- Work with the Plant & Facilities Department to establish a monitoring program either through ICLEI's Cities for Climate Protection program or EPA's Community Energy Challenge program and establish a baseline year for measurements.
- Establish a series of public forums educational forums
- Establish an annual event to showcase the initiatives and activities of various groups and organizations making strides towards Sustainability.